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[REDACTED]
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14 February 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy to the DCI for the Intelligence Community

SUBJECT : Substantive Value Assessment [REDACTED]

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At a meeting of the NRP ExCom Principals on Friday, 31 January 1975, the need for some special assessment related to the value [REDACTED] was identified. The following is quoted from the draft minutes of the meeting:

"A substantive value assessment [REDACTED] will be conducted by the intelligence community and be available for review prior to the July 1975 EXCOM Meeting. The Intelligence Community Staff will take the initiative for orchestrating this action."

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General Observations

The question [REDACTED] has been studied many times during the last few years. [REDACTED] issue currently represents a major split of opinion between DoD and CIA. To step in the middle and attempt an assessment of the issue could be a very sporty course. However, there is a need for factual/objective information.

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At the present time, several studies are under way which are sponsored by various elements of the Community and are addressing different aspects of the problem. Another study, which is conducted or directed by the IC Staff, to be superimposed over the currently programmed efforts, would be difficult, most likely fall short of the mark and on balance be counter-productive. Therefore, our efforts will be aimed at integrating and coordinating the on-going studies and to the degree possible, re-orienting them where appropriate, or establishing new efforts and assignments to fill obvious gaps.

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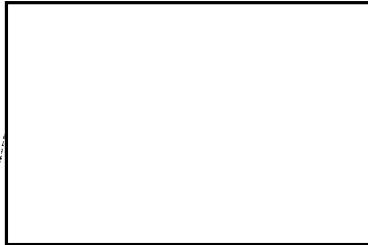
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There may be a need for an additional review by a high level independent panel backstopped by the IC Staff to provide DCI subjective overall evaluation. If we determine such a review is needed, first thoughts on potential members for such a review panel include people like:



IC Staff Involvement

I have established myself as lead within the Staff but would gladly relinquish. The total effort will involve a substantial IC Staff commitment. A major portion of [redacted] and my time will be required. Also, an additional IC Staff member (or someone from another element of the Community) will be required full time.

Immediate Actions

On the right is a letter for the DCI's signature to the concerned elements of the Community. This letter informs them of our approach and requests their cooperation and support.

18/
[redacted]
[redacted]
PD/DCI/IC

DCI/IC/PD/[redacted] is (2/14/75 - [redacted])
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